THE DAILY confusion

Your guide to Residence EXploration, pp. 7-9

MIT's Oldest and Largest Newspaper

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Thursday, August 24, 2017

WEATHER

THU: 79°F | 59°F Sunny

FRI: 77°F | 55°F Partly sunny

SAT: 74°F | 58°F Sunny

Interdisciplinary curricula options for engineering majors

New "threads" piloted for soph. to explore robotics, artificial organs

By Vivian Zhong and Anshula Gandhi

NEWS EDITORS

This fall, MIT's school of engineering will pilot a new format for guiding students' educational path, as an alternative to existing majors, minors, and concentrations. Dubbed "threads," this new course structure aims to allow students to explore interdisciplinary interests in project-centric curriculums.

The threads program is the brainchild of the New Engineering Educational Transformation (NEET) initiative. The core committee, which has developed the program over the course of the past year, comprises eight faculty members from eight different departments and an executive director, Amitava Mitra.

The two threads that will be piloted for the 2017-2018 academic year are "Autonomous Machines" and "Living Machines," and will be available to rising sophomores in select majors. The NEET team aims to attract 20 students per thread this fall.

The Autonomous Machines thread focuses on building "mechanical systems, software, and autonomy algorithms for real world robots," according to an announcement draft sent to The Tech by Mitra. Students in courses 16, 2-A, and 6 will be eligible.

The Living Machines thread, as advertised in the draft, will have students building microscopes, cell signaling sensors, and "guts on a chip": devices inhabited by microbes to mimic the human gastrointestinal system. Students in courses 20, 2-A, and 10 will be eligible.

Students who participate in this first iteration of the threads program will still graduate with a diploma in a major of their choice, but will instead take a tailored set of classes chosen from all the different majors involved in the central theme of the thread. According to Mitra, the existence of a "flex" options in most engineering departments allowed the NEET committee to avoid changing degree requirements to accommodate the new threads.

When Mitra spoke with The Tech July 27, he indicated that the curriculum for the pilot threads over the next three years was subject to change as the NEET team considers feedback from the inaugural sophomore class. As of the time of printing, the subjects for the upcoming year have still not been finalized.

Based on conversations with Mitra and draft documents, classes will be largely culled from the current catalog of sophomore courses in the relevant majors, and will incorporate a project-centric class during the spring semester. Classes directly relevant to the pilot threads may not be scheduled until participants' junior years due to the six to nine months necessary to develop new classes.

Mitra conveyed to The Tech the NEET team's goal of developing curricula that do a better job at linking engineering education to application than current offerings at MIT, or indeed at any university across the world.

A significant part of the proposed method of improvement appears to involve industry practices and inputs more heavily in the curriculum. Mitra said that industry partners will be engaged to provide advice to students taking a NEET project class, noting that students listen more to newly-graduated employee in prominent companies than to venerable faculty members.

Mitra also brought up the idea of building in more progress reports into semester-long project classes. To what degree existing project classes will be changed for NEET threads is still unclear.

Upon joining a thread at the end of their freshman year, participants can defer their choice of a major to the end of their sophomore year.

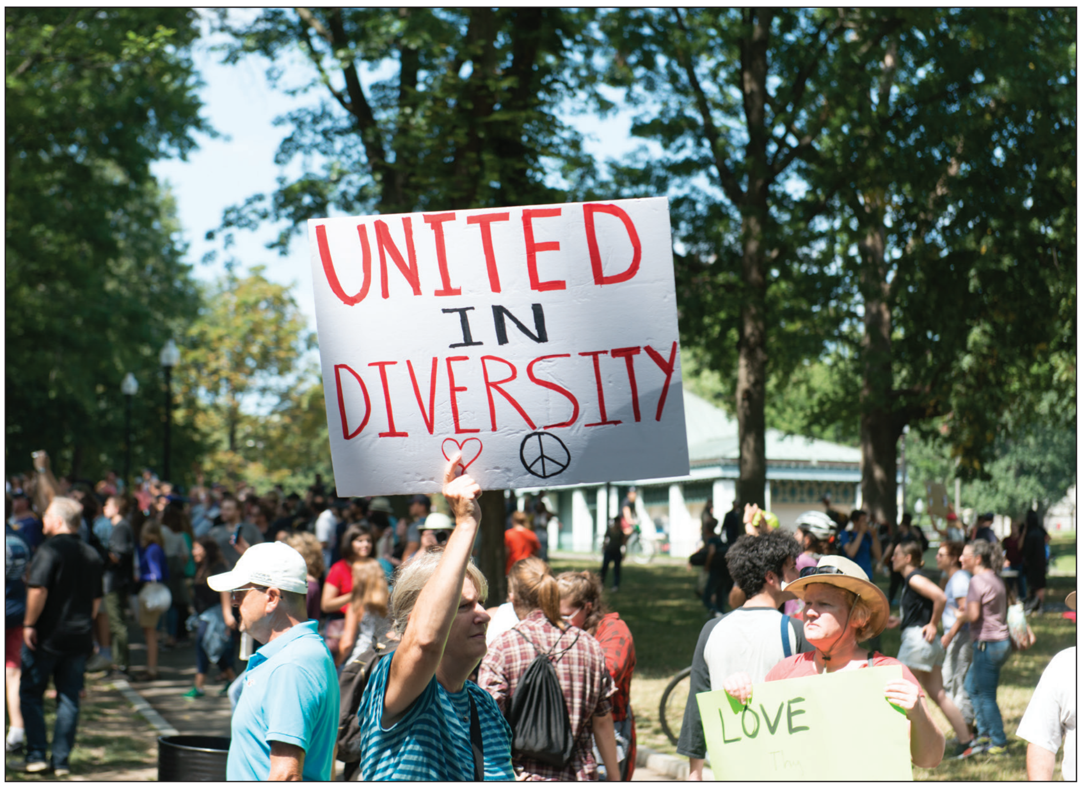
Asked what the difference was between joining a thread instead of simply selecting "undesignated" on the major declaration form and taking whatever classes are of interest, Mitra cited features such as specialized advisors, a defined community, and project-oriented classes as advantages of choosing the former.

The impetus behind NEET, according to Mitra, was a combination of concerns that MIT wasn't innovating enough and that MIT could provide much more to its students.

When asked how the "threads" might address the more chronic and underlying issue of poorly-taught technical classes, Mitra voiced his hopes that changing the teaching landscape at MIT is a long-term evolution that NEET can help to address by promoting collaboration between departments through the interdisciplinary nature of threads, as well as by providing project-centric classes to make existing education "more relevant."

According to Mitra, faculty members from whom the NEET team solicited feedback have cautioned that trying to extrapolate success in a pilot run to an entire department will be difficult, and have recommended having dedicated lab instructors for all NEET threads — and all departments, if possible.

And student feedback, Mitra said, often focused on a desire for more clarity concerning the tangible advantages NEET threads might provide to participants.



GREG STEINBRECHER—THE TECH

Around 40,000 counter-protestors flooded Boston Common Aug. 19 in response to a rally planned by the Boston Free Speech Coalition. The rally and protest followed on the heels of a violent "Unite the Right" rally in Charlottesville, VA Aug. 12.

IN SHORT

Deadline for pre-registration for continuing students is 5 p.m. Thursday, August 24.

Freshmen orientation begins Sunday, August 27.

Graduate Student Orientation begins Monday, August 28.

Online registration opens for all students Monday, August 28.

Send news and tips to *news@tech.mit.edu*.

Check out the Dormcon Residential Exploration booklet!

WANT FREE FOOD?

And more important things, like an understanding of each dorm's culture? See our insert for a rundown of REX events. **DC, p. 7**

REIF SHOULD TAKE A MORE VOCAL STAND

In light of Charlottesville, alum asks the MIT president to call out Trump as source of the present danger to American values. **OPINION, p. 4**

RALLY & PROTEST IN BOSTON COMMONS

Counter-protestors far outnumbered participants of a "free speech rally." **PHOTO, p. 3**

THE DISAPPOINTING TOWER

Stephen King's novel translated to a middling theater experience. **ARTS, p. 6**

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Solution to Welcome

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1	7	5	2	9	6	3	4	8
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Solution to Just Kidding

from page 11

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Solution to REX

from page 12

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Solution to IHTFP

from page 14

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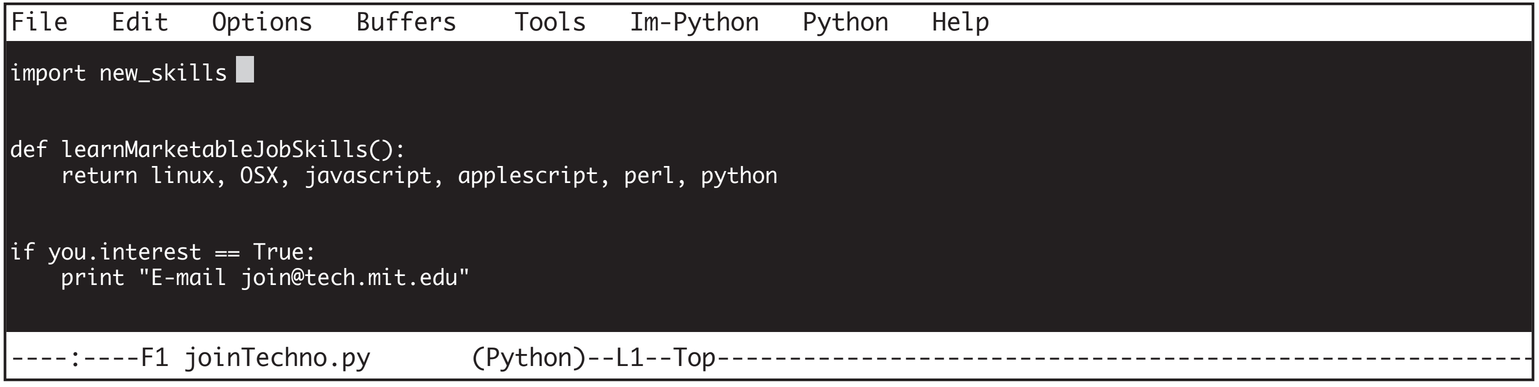

```
import new_skills █


def learnMarketableJobSkills():
    return linux, OSX, javascript, applescript, perl, python


if you.interest == True:
    print "E-mail join@tech.mit.edu"
```

```
----:----F1 joinTechno.py       (Python)--L1--Top---------------------------------------------------------------
```

EVENT

MIT Libraries Ice Cream Social

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Lipchitz Courtyard, Building 14

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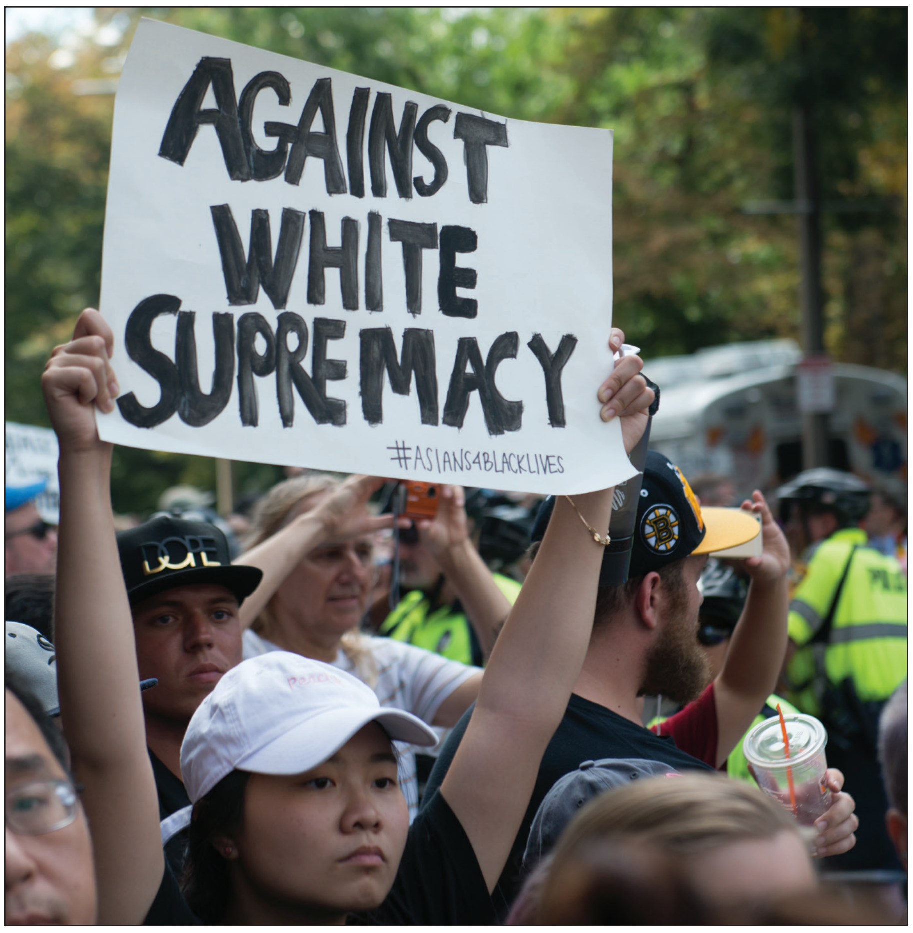
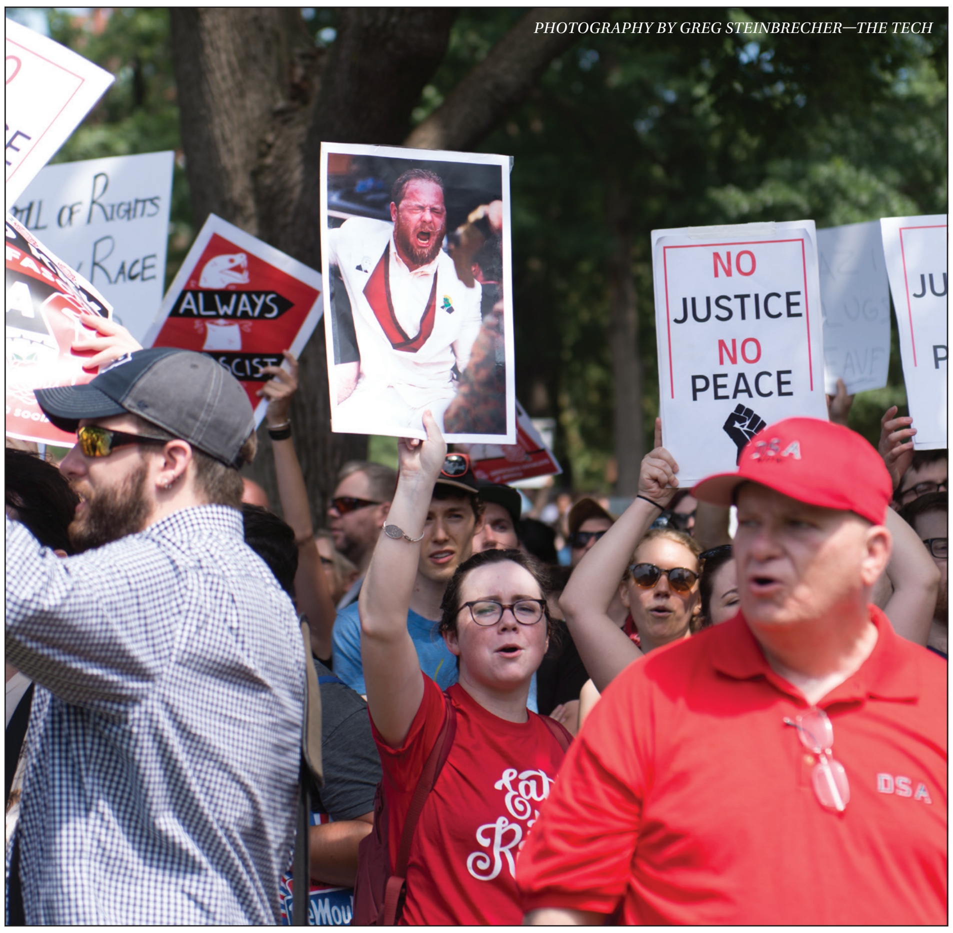
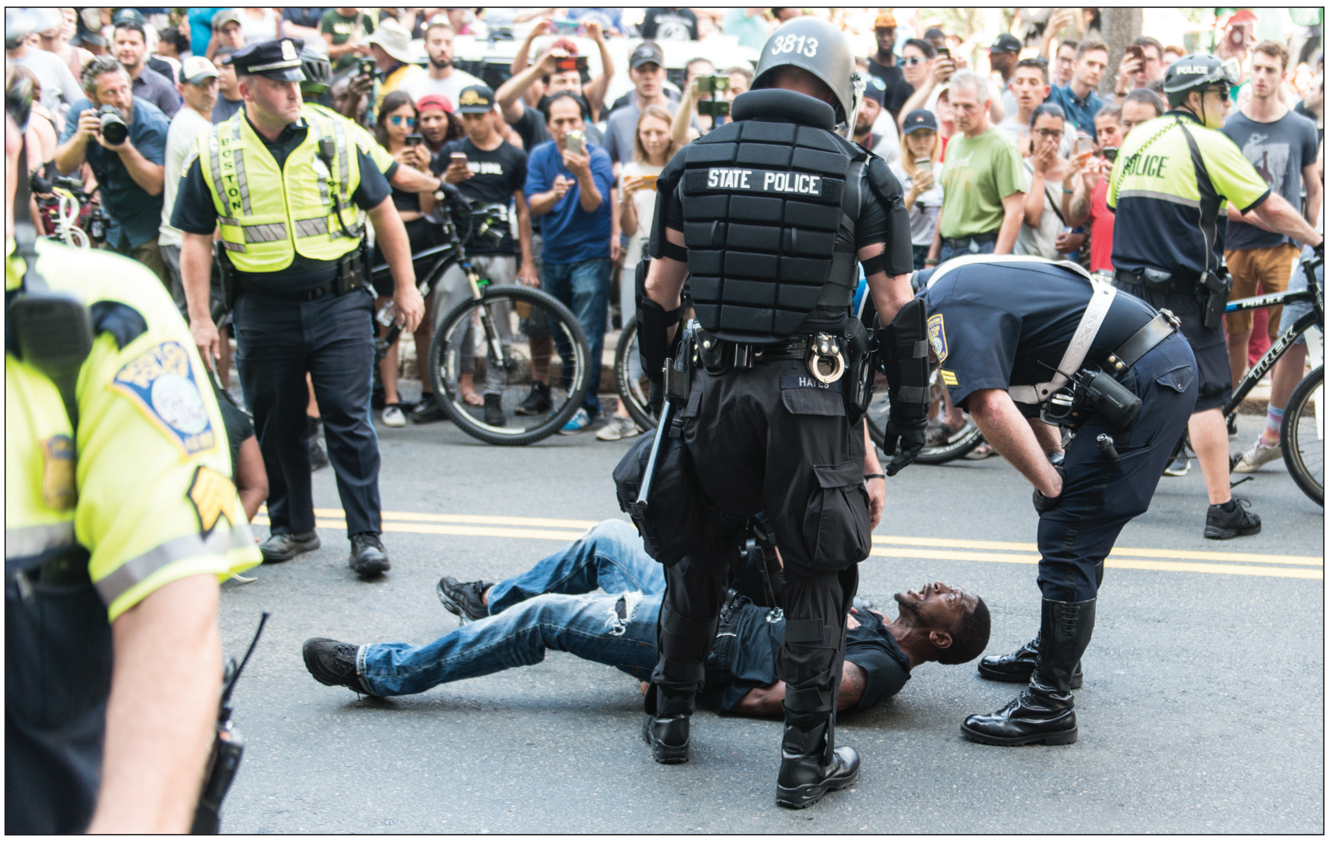

AGAINST WHITE SUPREMACY
#ASIANS4BLACKLIVES


PHOTOGRAPHY BY GREG STEINBRECHER—THE TECH
ALWAYS
NO JUSTICE NO PEACE
DSA

Counter-protest in Boston

“Tens of thousands of counter-protesters gathered on Boston Common on Saturday in response to a scheduled “Boston Free Speech” rally. The rally was originally scheduled to have several far-right extremist speakers and, especially in the wake of Charlottesville, drew the ire of a large portion of the community. Several of the speakers dropped out in the face of the initial backlash; in the end, only about 40 people showed up in support of the free speech rally and -- realizing there was no one there to listen to them -- the rally was disbanded. For their own protection, the attendees of the free speech rally were escorted out in police vans. Counter-protesters, angry that police were defending the group, formed a human wall that was broken up by riot police; several arrests were made for disorderly conduct.”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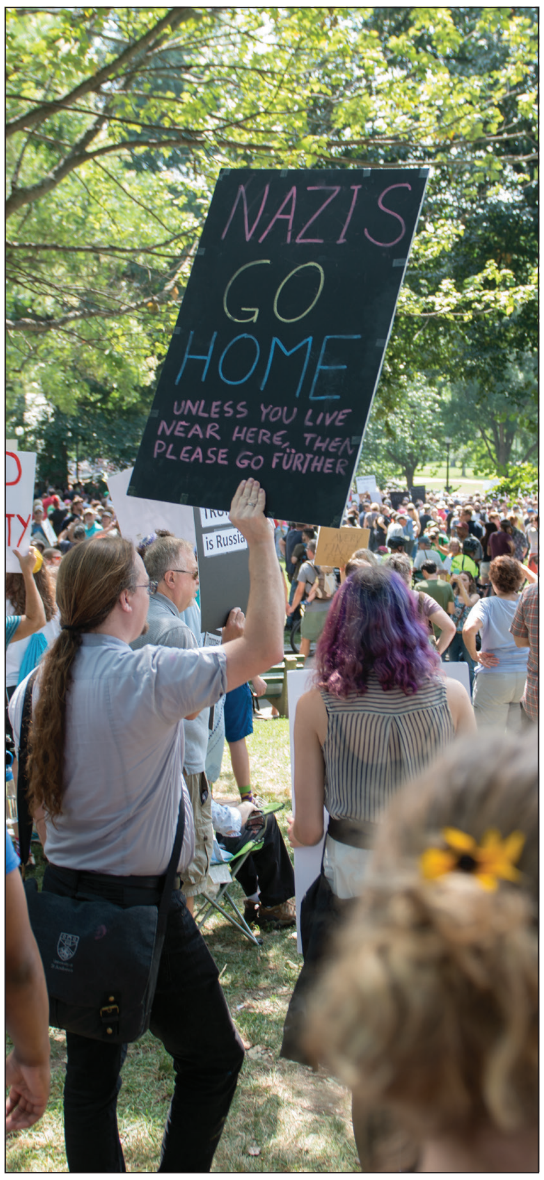
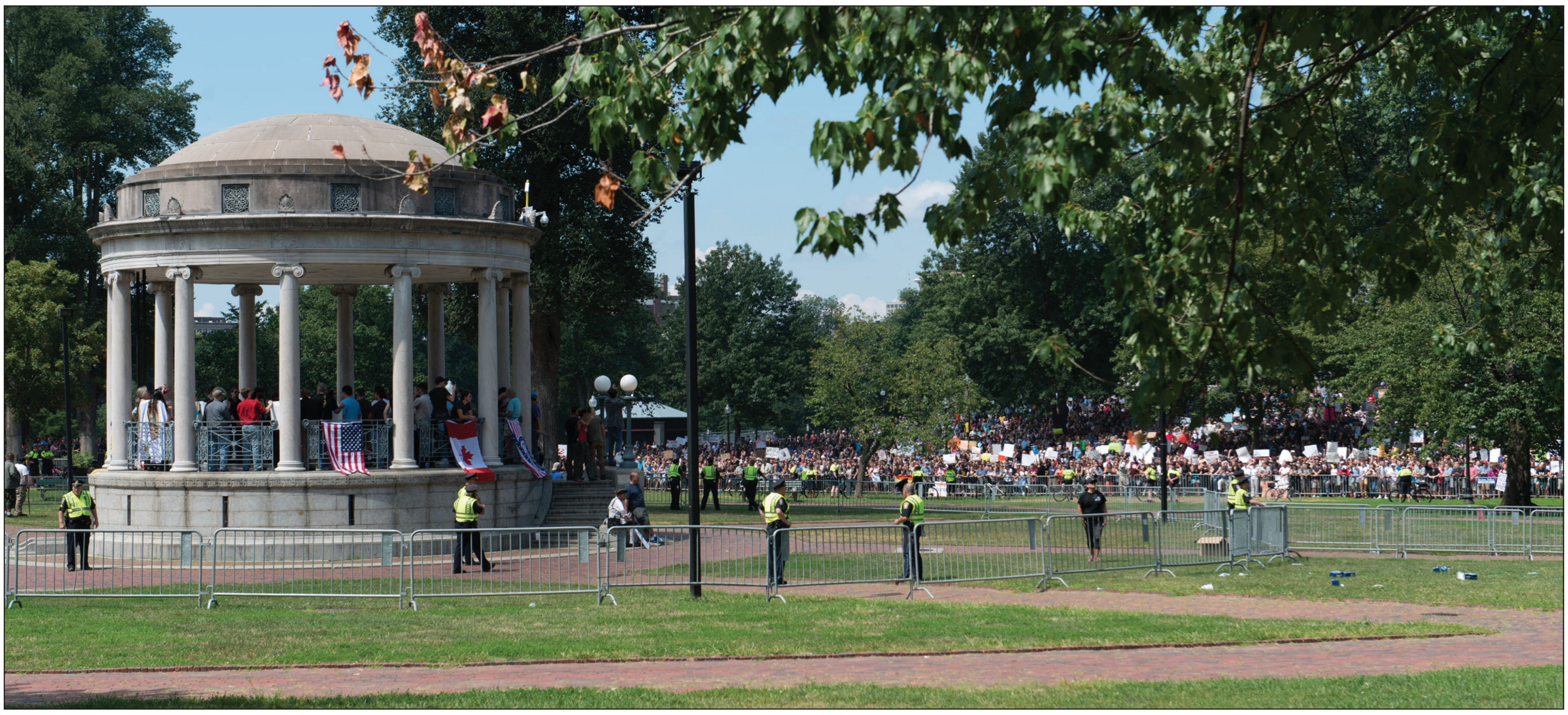

NAZIS GO HOME
UNLESS YOU LIVE NEAR HERE, THEN PLEASE GO FURTHER



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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Open letter to President Reif about the events in Charlottesville

President Reif,

Thank you for your August 15 e-mail about the horrific and frightening events in Charlottesville, VA over the weekend. I, of course, subscribe to the sentiments you express.

I urge you to go one step further. Recognize the scourge that has descended upon Washington. Call it out by name: Donald Trump. Just as so many people rightfully criticized him over the weekend for not condemning the KKK, Nazis, and white supremacists BY NAME, I believe it behooves you to identify BY NAME the source of danger to the pillars of our great country to which you refer.

Unprecedented, perhaps, for an MIT president to take such a stand, but the times in which we find ourselves are unprecedented. You, and I, and everyone else must make noise.

Thank you,

Ken Isaacson ’75

Do you have a question for President Reif?

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MOVIE REVIEW

Are you looking for a Good Time?

The American criminal is explored in the Safdie brothers' latest film *Good Time*

COURTESY OF A24

Robert Pattinson and Benny Safdie in Good Time.

By Ivy Li
ARTS EDITOR

The prologue and epilogue of this film are paramount. Without them, this film would feature Constantine "Connie" Nikas (Robert Pattinson), a hardened criminal who takes advantage of both his brother Nick (Benny Safdie) and his friend and is not above framing murders to avoid arrest. But the bookends reveal Connie's more empathetic character. The film opens to Connie's brother, Nick, as he speaks to a psychologist about connecting words. It is clear that he's experienced cruelty (scissors and pans are painful to him) but his session is cut short when Connie drags him out to rob a bank. Nick is then arrested, and Connie tries to break him out of jail through a series of escalating crimes.

I will speak first about race not because the film doesn't address it, but rather because it does so in a way that tiptoes around it. In retrospect, the characters' racism feels subtle because the characters never speak about it. But because this is a film, it is visually there. I note race first because how the film treats race is the most prominent example of the film's dark humor. Connie and Nick dress up as two black men when they rob the bank. Crystal (Taliah Lennice Webster), a young black girl who lives with her grandmother, is arrested after a white cop presumes that a black girl wandering around is up to no good. When Connie watches her get arrested despite her innocence, the characters' behavior suggest insensitivity — Crystal seems to simply accept her fate and Connie does not speak up to avoid facing charges — but the film's long take as Connie and Crystal stare at each other suggests anything but.

The film, as told from Connie's perspective, tries to draw your eyes away from the racism until it cannot. The Safdie brothers noted afterwards, writing Connie's various acts of racial discrimination were intentional, a subtle nod to the unjust conditions that spurned the Black Lives Matter movement. But from the film alone, it is unclear whether the acts were satirical or sincere. Connie is denounced for his crimes, at the very end when he is arrested, but not before collateral damage was dealt and his injustice left unanswered. The film is not as on the nose as the satirical *Get Out*, but it touches upon how easy it is for one to cross the line.

Connie's crimes seem more pronounced the longer it's been since I saw the film. The thrill of a film deludes you into a falsely justifying cruelty. Pattinson plays a mean Connie, who teeters between admirable and deplorable. The rapid filmwork and intimate close ups cut out most of the surroundings. It is uncomfortable to watch what we cannot see. With Oneohtrix Point Never's experimental music score, the film grows haunting and warped, as Connie easily kills a man and we don't know when his moral decay began. Maybe it was decaying to begin with. The film straddles a fine line between the believable and the ludicrous with its wilder ventures (How does one confuse another hospital patient with one's own brother?). It wisely pivots between the two, leaving a high-strung and comedic wild goose chase that is thrilling to watch.

Good Time gazes at the American criminal, a character that is beloved in the film canon yet so condemned in reality. The film tackles the character so deftly that we only realize this irony within minutes of the film's conclusion, that our hero was not the one we should have been compassionate with. I won't spoil the final scene, but it is crucial to the film's message and a clever punch to the gut; credits and music run over an unfulfilled ending that amounts to both everything and nothing.

★★★★☆

Good Time

Directed by Josh & Benny Safdie

Written by Ronald Bronstein and Josh Safdie

Starring Robert Pattinson, Benny Safdie, Buddy Duress, Taliah Lennice Webster, Barkhad Abdi and Jennifer Jason Leigh

Rated R, Now Playing

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MOVIE REVIEW

Get it right: a gunslinger shoots with his gun, not his heart

Stephen King's *The Dark Tower* is adapted into a less-than-stellar film

By Ivy Li
ARTS EDITOR

I confess that I have yet to read a Stephen King novel, although I suspect the complexity of the original novel series was simplified for this 95 minute film. King's strong concept comes through in yet another film adaptation, although just barely. The film version of *The Dark Tower* is a solid narrative that I enjoyed as a stand alone film and, at times, impressed me with its quick pacing and cohesive writing, but it was too riddled with mediocre writing to watch favorably.

★★★☆☆

The Dark Tower

Directed by Nikolaj Arcel

Based on The Dark Tower VII: The Dark Tower by Stephen King

Starring Idris Elba, Matthew McConaughey, Tom Taylor, Katheryn Winnick

PG-13, Now Playing

Cities tremble in the face of multiple earthquakes all over Earth. A young boy, Jake Chambers (Tom Taylor), sees visions of a dark tower, the last gunslinger Roland (Idris Elba), and the Man in Black (Matthew McConaughey) in his dreams. His father is dead, leaving his mother Laurie (Katheryn Winnick) and her new husband to take care of Jake. After escaping two "social workers" and passing through a portal, Jake enters Mid-World, the fantastical home of his visions, where he meets Roland and the two journey to face the Man in Black.

Elba plays a cool-headed Roland, a man whose compassion is hidden beneath the veneer of grief and its consequent vengeance. Casting McConaughey as Walter, the Man in Black, was a genius move. He comes across as sinister without being devoid of humor and is quite possibly my favorite character in the film.

COURTESY OF SONY PICTURES

Tom Taylor and Idris Elba in The Dark Tower.

But this simplicity in character comes at a cost. A fast-paced plot means loose elements are never developed. Aside from Roland and Walter, the other characters are entirely defined by their relation to Jake. His mother is caring and misses him, his father is dead and is missed by him. The psychologist is your typical unsympathetic professional. His friend is mild support. Not much else is learned, and consequently, the film feels hollow. Don't even get me started on the gunslinger oath (see title of article).

Fortunately, the film's central plot is cohesive enough: a lonely boy who sees too much meets a man who lost his will to fight. The gunslinger and Jake empathize with each other, both having lost their fathers. While the dead may never come back — and yes, many people die in this film — our protagonists find what they've been searching for: Jake finds a father figure in Roland while the gunslinger finds the will to fight from Jake.

Despite its glaring clichés and maudlin moments, *The Dark Tower* strikes a rare balance: concise yet detailed, sentimental yet sincere. If you watch the film without questioning anything (that is what I resigned to do), then it is quite enjoyable. That is the highest praise I will give it. Otherwise, the core narrative is a staple in the fantasy genre, nothing remarkable. The film tells a simple story, and although simplicity would be sufficient for some other film, it is not for this adaptation.

MOVIE REVIEW

The Only Living Boy in New York is a serviceable film

Stop trying to be *The Graduate* — it doesn't work

COURTESY OF AMAZON STUDIOS AND ROADSIDE ATTRACTIONS

Callum Turner and Kate Beckinsale in *The Only Living Boy in New York*.

By Ivy Li
ARTS EDITOR

The Only Living Boy in New York has a soundtrack with Simon and Garfunkel (and the title of one of my favorite songs) and a nerdy protagonist who sleeps with a seductive, older woman. Our hero is trying to figure out what to do with his life.

Oh wait. That sounds like *The Graduate*.

But our protagonist Thomas Webb (Callum Turner) is no Benjamin Braddock, the honest-to-goodness graduate who tries desperately to be what he is: honest and good. Therein lies the problem: infuse melodrama, push plot twist after plot twist, and *The Only Living Boy* becomes more and more predictable, because ironically, while Benjamin is the puppet unwittingly seduced by Mrs. Robinson, Thomas's choices are fueled by narrative and a need for drama; Thomas is no living boy.

We find Thomas Webb, a recent college graduate, chasing after his friend Mimi (Kiersey Clemons). He reluctantly consults his neighbor (Jeff Bridges) for his sagely advice, only to end up realizing he actually desires more than Mimi. He discovers his father (Pierce Brosnan) has secretly been cheating on his mother with his mistress, Johanna (Kate Beckinsale). Thomas follows Johanna to stop her relationship with his father, only to fall in love with her and learn about the secret circumstances of his family.

What made the absurdity of *The Graduate* work was its straightforwardness, empathy, and honesty, because the absurd moments in life merely happen as they are, not as what we hope them to be. Thomas and Johanna are forgettable and receive little of the compassion we feel for Benjamin and Mrs. Robinson because they behave as cogs of dramatic tension. Heightening the absurd coincidences makes them feel artificial.

Perhaps the only reason I don't rate this lower is, strangely, I kind of liked the film. The aesthetically gorgeous, glossy film choreography and the actors who made the best of poor writing give the film a seductive charm that is easy to fall for. But when I see Mimi crying in the rain after — surprise! — she finds out Thomas lied and had actually slept with Johanna, the melodrama gnaws at me. She accuses Thomas of "being one of them." "Them" is vague since there were no two, clear sides to begin with, but I suspect it refers to the people who, perhaps wisely, chose the convenient, monetary side rather than the artistic, tragic one.

And what a big lie it is, because there are no sides. This isn't West Egg versus East Egg, the nouveau riche versus old money. Nothing spoken or done is as it seems. The florid narration is but a farce: just because you have a publisher as a surrogate father, just because your neighbor is your eccentric Yoda-figure, just because art and literature pervade this New York, does not mean the film is about writing, or art, or growing up. These people are so far removed from reality that they live in artificiality. I can't tell you much about Thomas because the plot is all I know about Thomas. People here do and say what they never mean, and they never act in a way that tells us anything about themselves.

The Only Living Boy in New York is a misnomer, because within this film, no one is truly living, let alone a single boy. *The Graduate*'s Mrs. Robinson forever remains in my mind, but I won't be seeing visions of Johanna any time soon.

★★★☆☆

The Only Living Boy in New York

Directed by Marc Webb

Written by Allan Loeb

Starring Callum Turner, Kate Beckinsale, Pierce Brosnan, Cynthia Nixon, Kiersey Clemons, and Jeff Bridges

Rated R, Now Playing

Are you a font fiend? Do you like making presentations SHINE?

E-mail join@tech.mit.edu or join us
for dinner, Sundays 6 p.m. (W20-483)

We're looking for people to help us design infographics to highlight writers' content!

The **Production Department of The Tech** might be just the place for you!

THE DAILY confusion

On behalf of *The Tech*, we'd like to welcome the Class of 2021 to MIT! You'll find in the following pages a curated guide to this year's Residence Exploration (REX) events. We asked REX chairs to submit up to 25 events each and provide to short paragraphs about their living groups.

At MIT, you have the special privilege of choosing which dorm you would like to live in. You should engage as much as possible in the fun events the dorms will host, so you can find the people you will love to hang out with for years to come. Visit other dorms even if you are satisfied in your current assignment, and remember that the people and culture of a dorm matter more than its physical amenities (or lack thereof). Switching dorms is more than possible, and don't forget that the many fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups (FSILGs) will also be recruiting in a couple weeks. You'll find a similar guide to FSILG events in an upcoming issue. Don't forget to have fun and pepper the upperclassmen with questions!

Baker House, Burton Conner House, Maseeh Hall, McCormick Hall, New House, and Next House did not submit events and descriptions by The Tech's publication deadline.

MESSAGES FROM YOUR REX CHAIRS

East Campus
Never talk to the media, kids.

—*[redacted]*

MacGregor House
Many homes
All stacked on top of or next to each other
Catered to different tastes:
Gamers
Ravers
Easy-goers
Goofy introverts
Overall, just
Really awesome people

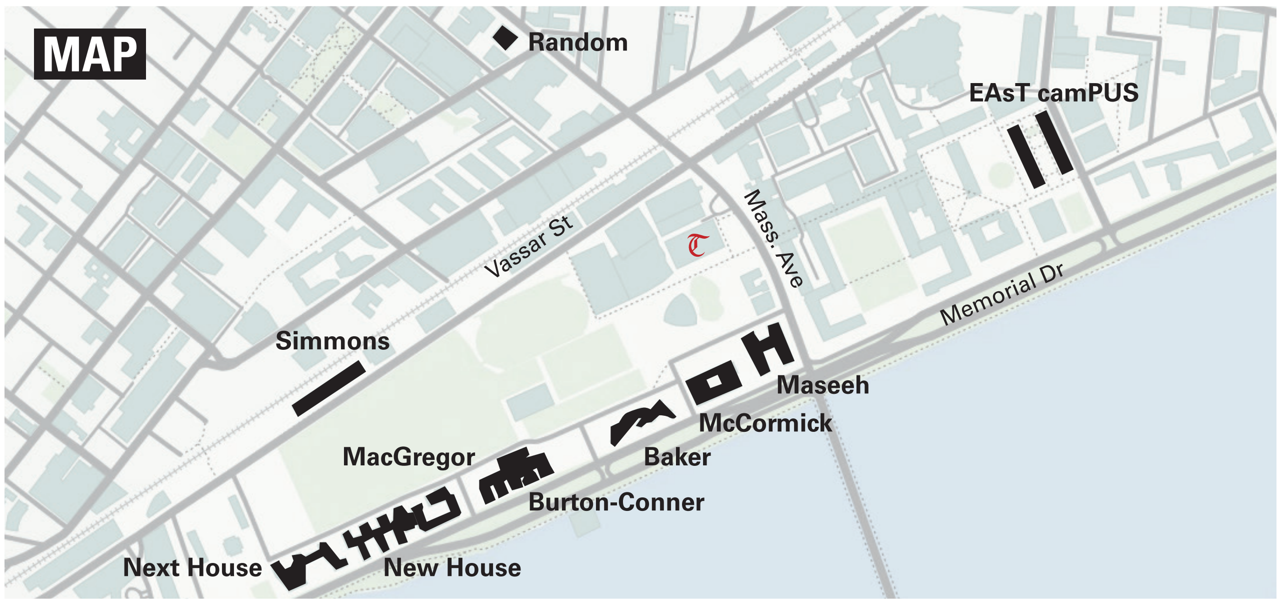
—*Barbarah Heimer*

Random Hall
Random Hall accepts you for who you are: any background, any major, any lifestyle, any orientation, any miscellaneous eccentricities. Our close-knit community spans many interests, identities, and hobbies, but we're united by a desire to support each other, a willingness to embrace differences, and a nigh-indescribable brand of nerdiness. This explains many of Random's iconic features, from the murals and artwork covering all surfaces to our 22-year-old milk to the strange noises and the delighted laughter coming down a nearby staircase. Our whole dorm wants to be your friend - come check us out!

—*J. Arthur Random*

Simmons Hall
Simmons Hall is already an incredible dorm, with thousands of windows, several terraces, a two-story movie theater, a ball pit, and dozens of lounges scattered throughout the building. However, Simmons is so much more than its facilities. Within our curvy concrete walls, you will find artists, gamers, musicians, theater nerds, varsity athletes, American Ninja Warriors, MLB recruits, Grand Integrators, National Yo Yo Champions, and more importantly, family. It is home to an extraordinary group of undergraduates constantly doing exciting things. We hope you will pay us a visit and decide if you would like to join our community!

—*the Residents of the Mothersponge*



Friday, August 25, 2017

9:00 AM

9:00 AM - 11:45 PM **East Campus**
Courtyard Construction. "Alright, I'm awake now, is EHS here?"

3:00 PM

3:00 PM - 11:45 PM **East Campus**
Grillin'. "I just want to go to home depot of my own volition."

Saturday, August 26, 2017

8:00 AM

8:30 AM - 10:30 AM **MacGregor House**
MacGregor Breakfast. The most important meal of the day, serving it up Gary's way! Pop!

12:00 PM

12:00 PM - 1:30 PM **Simmons Hall**
Grill, Fill, Chill!. We grill, you fill, we all chill. Veg* options available.

2:00 PM

2:00 PM - 4:30 PM **East Campus**
Trader Jack's. "Don't attribute this to me."

2:15 PM - 4:45 PM **Random Hall**
Random Hallsmead. Come and watch Harry, Ron, and Hermione face werewolves, dementors, and escaped convict Sirius Black while enjoying some of the treats you may find in Hogsmeade!

4:00 PM

4:00 PM - 11:30 PM **East Campus**
Building and Grilling. "Fort is trillions of dollars over budget."

5:00 PM

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM **MacGregor House**
Creative Cooking with H Entry. Are you worried about how you'll survive MIT without your mom making you dinner? Come to H Entry and learn how to cook, dorm style, from the people who know best. Open to cooks of all skill levels!

6:00 PM

6:15 PM - 8:15 PM **Random Hall**
Epic Mealtime of Destiny. Bacon strips and bacon strips and bacon strips and bacon strips and bacon strips

6:30 PM - 7:30 PM **Simmons Hall**
Ramen Party. Experience the staple of many a college students' diet.

7:00 PM

7:00 PM - 8:30 PM **Simmons Hall**
Sponge Scavenger Hunt: REX Edition. Make your way through the most puzzling of MIT's dorms on the path to become the first team to find the hidden Coin!

8:00 PM

8:00 PM - 10:00 PM **MacGregor House**
F is for Feelings. A vague belief. An emotional state or reaction. The act of touching to experience. Here at F entry, we embrace feelings. Join us in a celebration of feelings and enjoy an farrago of flavorful foods.

8:00 PM - 9:30 PM **Simmons Hall**
Scootah Hockey. Join in the Simmons tradition scootah hockey. Roll around on small plastic scootahs trying to score goals against your fellow prefrosh.

9:00 PM

9:00 PM - 12:00 AM **Simmons Hall**
Smash Bros n' Chill. Smash 4? MELEE? Brawl? (Just kidding about Brawl.) Come fight your fellow frosh and Simmons' best while munching on some late-night snacks.

9:15 PM - 10:45 PM **Random Hall**
Nerdy Sing-a-long. Come sing with us! Broadway, Disney, Pokémon, songs about science, and more!

10:00 PM

10:00 PM - 12:00 AM **Simmons Hall**
Wub Wub and Wings. Tons of wings, tons of jams, tons of Smash Bros. Come party hard, chow down, and socialize like it's 1999.

11:00 PM

11:00 PM - 12:30 AM **Simmons Hall**
Cheesecake & Sporcle. We have cheesecake. You like cheesecake. Come get cheesecake. We also have Sporcle. Come and Sporcle.

11:30 PM - 1:00 AM **MacGregor House**
SNL and Brown-Es. Come watch SNL while we enjoy E-entry's famous gooey brownies.

11:30 PM - 11:45 PM **East Campus**
We're not here. "What is this for? Why am I here? Is this a meeting?"

Sunday, August 27, 2017

8:00 AM

8:30 AM - 10:30 AM **MacGregor House**
Flapjack Attack. Want to make your own pancakes? Want to watch someone make you some pancakes? Maybe you just want pancakes. Either way we have pancakes.

10:00 AM

10:00 AM - 11:45 PM **East Campus**
Let's finish this coaster!. "We stopped early yesterday because we realized everything had been laid out wrong."

10:15 AM - 12:15 PM **Random Hall**
Math and Tea. Explore math, while sipping tea and munching on cookies.

11:00 AM

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM **MacGregor House**
Petting Zoo!. Come pet animals!

12:00 PM
FYRE applications open!
fyre.mit.edu

12:00 PM

12:15 PM - 2:15 AM **Random Hall**
Dumpling Hylomorphisms. Anamor-

Baker
BAKER HOUSE
362 MEMORIAL DRIVE

East Campus

Burton Conner
410 memorial drive

McCormick
McCormick Hall

phism: the building up of a structure. Catamorphism: the consumption of a structure. Hylomorphism: both an anamorphism and a catamorphism. This event? A hylomorphism on dumplings.

12:30 PM - 1:30 PM **Simmons Hall**
Pizza Bagels. Join us at Simmons for our annual pizza bagel lunch, where we'll have sauces and toppings for you to make your very own pizza bagels.

1:00 PM

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM **MacGregor House**
Learn to Roll with A Entry. Learn the best technique for rolling your burrito with the highest entry in MacG and get the best view in the house. Join us for some Mexican food!

1:15 PM - 2:15 PM **Random Hall**
Boffing on the Roofdeck. Arm yourself with a weapon wrought of foam and tape, and strike with the fury of a thousand tigers! FOR THE GLORY OF RANDOM HALL!

1:30 PM - 3:00 PM **Simmons Hall**
Paint Bar. Come paint the afternoon away with us! We'll have the colors of the rainbow, enough paint brushes to go around, and friendly conversations.

2:00 PM

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM **MacGregor House**
Laser Tag. Like having fun? Come play tag...of the laser variety.

2:00 PM - 5:00 PM **East Campus**
Dorm Tours. "Your room smells like black powder."

2:00 PM - 3:30 PM **Simmons Hall**
Bow Wow Wow It's Bailey. Come meet Bailey the Therapy Dog that comes and visits MIT occassionally throughout the year.

2:30 PM - 4:00 PM **East Campus**
Spicy Ramen Challenge. "That was dumb. I'll admit it, that was dumb."

3:00 PM

3:00 PM - 6:00 PM **MacGregor House**
Smashfest. Test your mettle against MacGregor G¬≠Entry's smash brothers and sisters! There will be Melee, Smash 4, Mario Kart, and more in an old school gaming spree for the ages! Snax (and hax) included.

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM **Simmons Hall**
SimmonsPlaysPokemon. We could afford one Pokémon game, so we'll have to share...at the same time. Come troll us in-person or virtually at twitch.tv/simmonshall.

3:30 PM - 5:30 PM **MacGregor House**
Frilled Cheese with F Entry. What is frilled cheese? Come to F Entry to discover or debate the answer, hang out with the residents, and stuff your face with copious, overburdened, frilled cheese.

3:30 PM - 5:00 PM **Simmons Hall**
Capture the Sardines. Rated 2 spoopy 5 you by our top scientists. Come play two of your favorite childhood games in the most architecturally confused building.

4:00 PM

4:00 PM - 6:00 PM **Simmons Hall**
Cinco de Mayo, August 27th Edition. Come enjoy enchiladas, flautas, rice, beans, and other classics at Simmons Hall!

4:15 PM - 4:45 PM **Random Hall**
Clam Bake . Grab your favorite pot and satisfy your munchies on Clam. We've got the brownies, the hash (browns) and more! (No drugs, just good food and bad puns.) [STARTING FIVE MINUTES LATE]

6:15 PM - 8:00 PM
Orientation Kickoff

7:00 PM

7:15 PM - 9:15 PM **Random Hall**
LN2 Ice Cream. I scream, you scream, we all scream for ice cream. Served steaming cold. (And look out for LN2 Round 2 on 8/31 from 1:17-3:17)

8:00 PM

8:00 PM - 10:00 PM **MacGregor House**
Movies Against Humanity with C Entry. Come join us for a game of Cards Against Humanity, hand-picked ridiculous movies, and a guaranteed great time!

8:00 PM - 1:00 AM **MacGregor House**
The Ultimate Ping Pong Tournament (and other games). Come join H Entry in a preview of our entry's annual ping pong tournament and play other board games in MacGregor's Game Room!

8:00 PM - 1:00 AM **East Campus**
EAST SIDE PARTY. LONG LIVE THE EAST SIDE

8:00 PM - 10:00 PM **Simmons Hall**
SIMFEST. Come experience everything that Simmons has to offer in a jam-packed period of wonder!

10:00 PM

10:00 PM - 11:00 PM **Simmons Hall**
Ask Me Anything: Real Talk about College Life. Come and ask any question you want, anonymously, to our diverse panel of residents. They have sworn to tell the truth.

11:00 PM

11:15 PM - 12:15 AM **Random Hall**
Powerpoint Karaoke. Give presentations on topics you know nothing about, using powerpoint slides you've never seen before! Bonus points if you can get through a whole presentation without giggling!

Monday,
August 28, 2017

8:00 AM

8:30 AM - 11:00 AM **Simmons Hall**
Rainbow Breakfast. Come meet LGBTQ+ Sims and fill up on pancakes made from colorful batter! Taste the rainbow - pancake edition.

11:00 AM - 12:00PM
Convocation

12:00 PM

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM **East Campus**
Head of House Brunch. "Or as I prefer to call him, Daddy."

1:00 PM

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM **MacGregor House**
Brigg's Field: Soccer and Popsicles with A Entry. Come join the MacGregor Alpha Dogs for a game of soccer! Get fit and have a great time. If you don't like soccer but still want to come hang out with us, we'll have popsicles to share with everyone :)

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM **East Campus**
Human Chess. "Press my crotch and I'll light up."

2:00 PM

2:00 PM - 5:00 PM **East Campus**
Dorm Tours. "Do you all name your beds?"

4:00 PM

4:00 PM - 5:30 PM **Simmons Hall**
Tea Party. Light sandwiches, sweet treats, and refreshing tea. Come along, we're all mad here!

4:15 PM - 5:15 PM **Random Hall**
BMF Arm Wrestling Competition. come participate in the first-ever bmf arm wrestling competition yayyy, and revel in how bad-ass the residents of bmf are! :P high-protein noms and possibly prizes will be provided :V

4:15 PM - 5:15 PM **Random Hall**
Physics And Fizzy Drinks. Explore the world of physics at MIT while exploring a variety of soft drinks.

6:00 PM

6:30 PM - 7:30 PM **East Campus**
RIOT!. "I couldn't save Senior Haus, but I'm going to throw a huge fucking fit about this."

6:45 PM - 9:45 PM **Random Hall**
Queer Ladies Movie Night. Watch classic movies centered around LGBTQ women and make your own pride flag cookies! People of all genders and sexualities welcome

7:00 PM

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM **MacGregor House**
Paint Night w/ Indian Food in D Entry. Acrylic painting along with Bob Ross as he guides you through the steps of creating a picturesque masterpiece, or just paint whatever you want. There will also be delicious Indian food to enjoy.

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM **Simmons Hall**
Escape the Room. Get "locked" in a room with some of your soon-to-be closest friends! Can you complete all the puzzles before the velociraptors break in?

7:30 PM - 8:30 PM **East Campus**
Flavorful Fellatio. "Is this referencing cunnilingus and is it inclusive and welcoming to all?"

8:00 PM

8:00 PM - 10:00 PM **MacGregor House**
The Original (J entry) Murder Mystery, est. 2015. a shOt goes off in a Crowded room and a man falls down, dead. you have Two hoUrs to Solve our puzzlEs and find the murdeRer. bring YoUr appetite for justIce (and catered dinner).

8:00 PM - 10:00 PM **MacGregor House**
bEan dip and board games. E entry's legendary bean dip along with its legendary board game fanatics all in one place. Catan you believe it?

9:00 PM

9:00 PM - 11:00 PM **MacGregor House**
B casual with B entry. Come and hang out, have conversations and listen to stories, creep on our photos, and meet some residents who also happened to be pretty cool.

9:00 PM - 2:00 AM **Simmons Hall**
Puzzle Hunt. A puzzle hunt made by MIT students, for MIT students. Drop in at any time and solve a few puzzles, or try to solve the meta first.

9:00 PM - 10:00 PM **Simmons Hall**
Swing Dancing. Learn how to swing dance with some members of the Simmons Swing Team before Top of the Sponge! No previous dance experience required.

9:30 PM - 10:30 PM **East Campus**
Aluminum Forging. "It's fine, they'll all just get arrested."

10:00 PM

10:00 PM - 1:00 AM **Simmons Hall**
Top Of The Sponge. Come dance the night away on our iconic rooftop terrace with a spectacular view of the Boston skyline! It'll be dope as duck.

11:00 PM

11:30 PM - 11:45 PM **East Campus**
We're still not here. "Wait they listened to me?"

Tuesday,

August 29, 2017

7:00 AM

7:30 AM - 10:30 AM **MacGregor House**
MacGregor Breakfast. The most important meal of the day. Serving it up Gary's way. Pop!

9:00 AM

9:30 AM - 12:00 PM **Simmons Hall**
Trojan Duck Build. Join the Simmons Build crew in reconstructing the giant Trojan Duck that will win us the water war!

1:00 PM

1:00 PM - 10:45 PM **East Campus**
Grilling and Chilling. "If you smoke a cigarette with [redacted] do you just get whatever you want?"

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM **East Campus**
Tea Party. "Am I a comfort object now?"

2:00 PM - 3:30 PM
Academic Expo

2:00 PM

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM **East Campus**
SATISFACTION. "We should get shirts that say ,'don't talk to us, we know what we're doing.'" "The problem is that we don't know what we're doing.

6:00 PM

6:00 PM - 7:30 PM **East Campus**
WATER WAR. "[redacted] is literally the gestapo."

8:00 PM

8:00 PM - 9:30 PM **MacGregor House**
Protobowl and Produce with E Entry. Prove your Quiz Bowl prowess while eating the only fruits and veggies you might find all REX

8:00 PM - 10:00 PM **MacGregor House**
Cards, Board Games, and Foooood! With D Entry. Chill with some card and/or board games while eating delicious wings and pizza. Vegetarian options available.

8:00 PM - 10:00 PM **MacGregor House**
Bentry and chill. Come watch tv shows and munch on stuff with Bentry! In the past, it has devolved into listen to our cool life stories-and-chill. Bring your own tales to share as well.

8:30 PM - 10:00 PM **Simmons Hall**
Making Wind Instruments. Make your own Pan flute, an ancient style of wind instrument, using PVC pipe!

8:45 PM - 11:45 PM **Random Hall**
(Almost) Life Size Settlers of Catan. Come play (almost) life-sized Settlers of Catan! Hoard (and eat, when it's not your turn) marshmallow "sheep," pretzel "wheat," oreo "iron," and graham-cracker "bricks"!

9:00 PM

9:00 PM - 11:00 PM **MacGregor House**
Memes and Cereal with J Entry. J Entry takes pride in collecting the best YouTube memes into
great playlists. Come and enjoy an adventure through the weird
world of the internet. And we have cereal of course.

10:00 PM

10:00 PM - 2:00 AM **Simmons Hall**
Board Games and Ice Cream. Meet some of your classmates through friendly competition! There will be games and ice cream. Play games and chat with your fellow students.

10:30 PM - 11:45 PM **East Campus**
Pinkie's . "EC was hardk0re back in the day, man, this guy caught a fucking squirrel."

11:00 PM

11:00 PM - 12:30 AM **Simmons Hall**
Hamilton Sing-Along. "Aaron Burr, Sir", I am not going to waste "My Shot", for "That Would Be Enough" to sing "Non-Stop" as the one and only, "Alexander Hamilton".

Wednesday,

August 30, 2017

12:00 AM

12:30 AM - 2:00 AM **East Campus**
minimalism. "All I have is mason jars because people think I'm a vegetarian."

7:00 AM

7:30 AM - 10:30 AM **MacGregor House**
Flapjack Attack 2. Missed the first flapjack attack? Want to make your own pancakes? Want to watch someone make you some pancakes? Maybe you just want pancakes. Either way we have pancakes...

Thursday,

2:00 AM
FYRE applications close!
fyre.mit.edu

August 31, 2017

12:00 AM

12:15 AM - 1:15 AM **Random Hall**
The Inagural Midnight PSET Race. You'll be doing PSETs in a few days, so come and experience firsthand how the process works! Spicy prizes go to the winners of this contest.

1:00 PM

1:45 PM - 3:45 PM **Random Hall**
Make Your Own Headlamps. Come learn about circuits to solder your own headlamp! Then you can see in the dark when you need your hands. No previous electrical engineering experience necessary.

3:00 PM

3:45 PM - 4:45 PM **Random Hall**
Chemistry and Cake. Cake is yummy. Chemistry is fun. Come eat cake and learn about chemistry and Course V!

4:00 PM

4:45 PM - 6:45 PM **Random Hall**
Crazy Cat Lady Make-a-thon. Like crafts? Love cats? Come make toys with the lovely ladies of Loop for our handsome kitties!

7:00 PM

7:00 PM - 9:30 PM **MacGregor House**
Friends and Fondue with C Entry. Do you like chocolate? Do you have friends? If the answer is yes or no to either of the above questions, you should come have a fun time with C entry :)

8:00 PM

8:15 PM - 10:15 PM **Random Hall**
Nekomimi Maid Café. Come to Random to be served delicious food by maids with cat ears! kawaii neko maid cafe (=^-.-^=)/ nyaa~

Friday,

September 1, 2017

12:00 PM

12:45 PM - 1:45 PM **Random Hall**
Biology with Brownies. Mitochondria, mitosis, cloning, epigenetics, immunology, oncogenes, and all the science of life! That or brownies: which is more amazing? YOU DECIDE.

1:00 PM

1:15 PM - 2:15 PM **Random Hall**
Microwaves and thaw. Ready for a life of weird projects and free supplies; come to a practical tutorial in crufting at Random (may field trip to Stata loading dock)

2:00 PM

2:15 PM - 6:15 PM **Random Hall**
Ceiling Tile Painting. Did you know that gullible is written on the ceiling? And that's not the only thing that can be if you come decorate one of Random Hall's ceiling tiles!

5:00 PM
FYRE results out!
fyre.mit.edu

5:00 PM

5:15 PM - 8:15 PM **Random Hall**
Hair to Dye For. Is your current hair color too boring and natural? Then come and dye it any or all of the colors in the rainbow! (Feel free to come in at any time during the event.)

6:00 PM

6:15 PM - 7:15 PM **Random Hall**
Architecture and Avocado Toast. Be a bougie millenial, enjoy some avocado toast and learn about Course 4 at MIT

8:00 PM

8:15 PM - 10:15 PM **Random Hall**
Wisconsin State Fair. Are you feeling homesick for the midwest? Or do you just want some delicious deep fried fair food? Come sample our array of artery clogging comfort food!

9:00 PM

9:00 PM - 11:00 PM **MacGregor House**
Poker and Chinese Food. name says it all.

10:00 PM

10:15 PM - 12:15 AM **Random Hall**
Pecker Board Game Night. Build a dominion in Puerto Rico comprised of seven wonders, then race to the galaxy and help the Twilight Imperium crush the resistance! Come and play the board games RH has acquired through the ages

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[1] Other fees may apply, including a Paper Statement fee if you elect to receive paper statements. Refer to your fee schedule for details.

[2] **WHO QUALIFIES:** Student Value Checking is available to students 16 through 25 years of age. Once you reach 26, we will convert your Student Value Checking to another checking product. Students who currently have a personal checking account or who have had a personal checking account with Santander Bank in the last year are not eligible for this offer. Offer is only available to residents of NH, MA, RI, CT, DE, NY, NJ, or PA. Offer subject to change at any time. Santander team members are not eligible.

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TIMING AND OTHER CONDITIONS OF THE BONUS: Your Student Value Checking account must be open and in good standing to be bonus eligible. Bonus payments will be made to your account within 120 days of account opening. Cannot be combined with other offers. One bonus per customer. The bonus is considered interest and will be reported to the IRS on Form 1099-INT. If multiple accounts are opened with the same signer, only one account will be eligible for the bonus.

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Welcome, Prefrosh!

Solution, page 2

	8				1			
1	7	5		9	6			
4		2						
2	1			3			8	5
		8		6		2		
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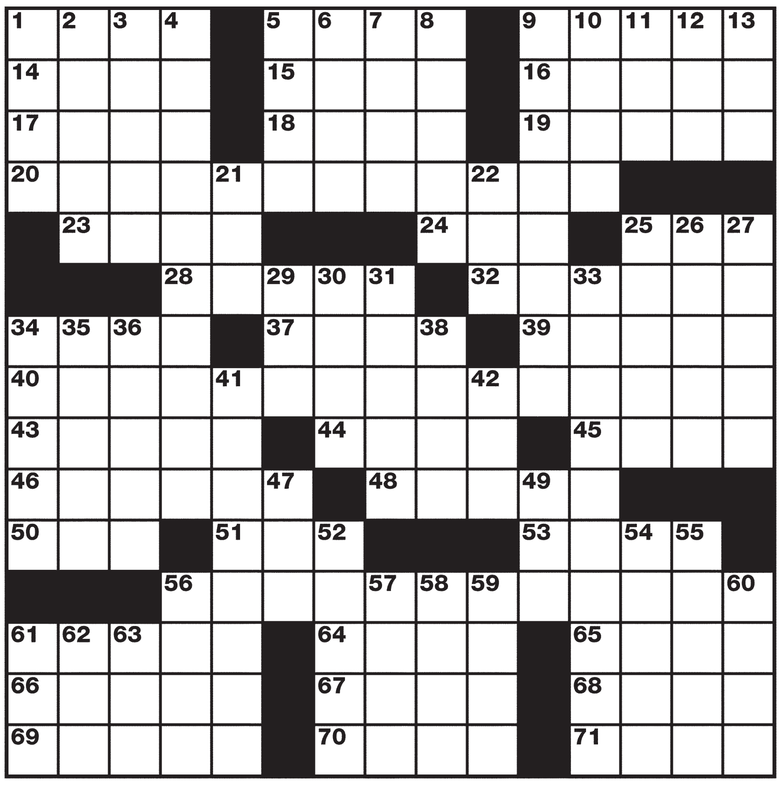
			3	7		6	1	2
			9				5	

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9.

JUST KIDDING by Fred Piscop

Solution, page 2



ACROSS

1 See (to)

5 "Yes, we should!"

9 Gunk

14 Something in the air

15 Stage direction

16 At the present time

17 Soft ball brand

18 Spinach pie ingredient

19 Dwelling

20 Stand-up put-down specialists

23 Highway hauler

24 Lobbying grp.

25 Land to build on

28 Dilbert cartoonist

32 Homegrown

34 Tailor-made

37 Less filling, on labels

39 Tuber's nickname

40 Prank perpetrators

43 It means "straight"

44 Diva's delivery

45 Art Deco artist

46 Traffic slowers

48 Step like the bossa nova

50 Onetime Russian state: Abbr.

51 Doze (off)

53 "Semper Fi" org.

56 Renaissance Faire entertainers

61 B equivalent

64 Neighbor of Turkey

65 Spiny houseplant

66 Rodeo ride

67 Peddle

68 Small salamander

69 Beethoven's Pastoral Symphony

70 Former pair

71 Residential retreats

DOWN

1 Novelist Morrison

2 Serene spots

3 Branch of mythology

4 Fictional Chinese archvillain

5 Flew the coop

6 Corporate officer

7 Bandleader Puente

8 Passport mark

9 Choppy, in music

10 Soft throws

11 Oath affirmation

12 Very sore

13 Observe

21 Part of a travel mug

22 Name on the cover of Goldfinger

25 Cola measure

26 Out in the open

27 Pithy

29 Will Smith role

30 Mineral used in insulation

31 Oscar Night interviewees

33 Reveal one's view

34 Observes

35 "To __ human . . ."

36 Radiator contents

38 Director Kazan

41 A-one

42 Traffic slower

47 Trifling amount

49 HOV lane user

52 Transmission setting

54 Altercation

55 Symbol of sovereignty

56 Is unable

57 Creature fought by King Kong

58 One of Agatha's sleuths

59 Cuts off

60 Stage scenery

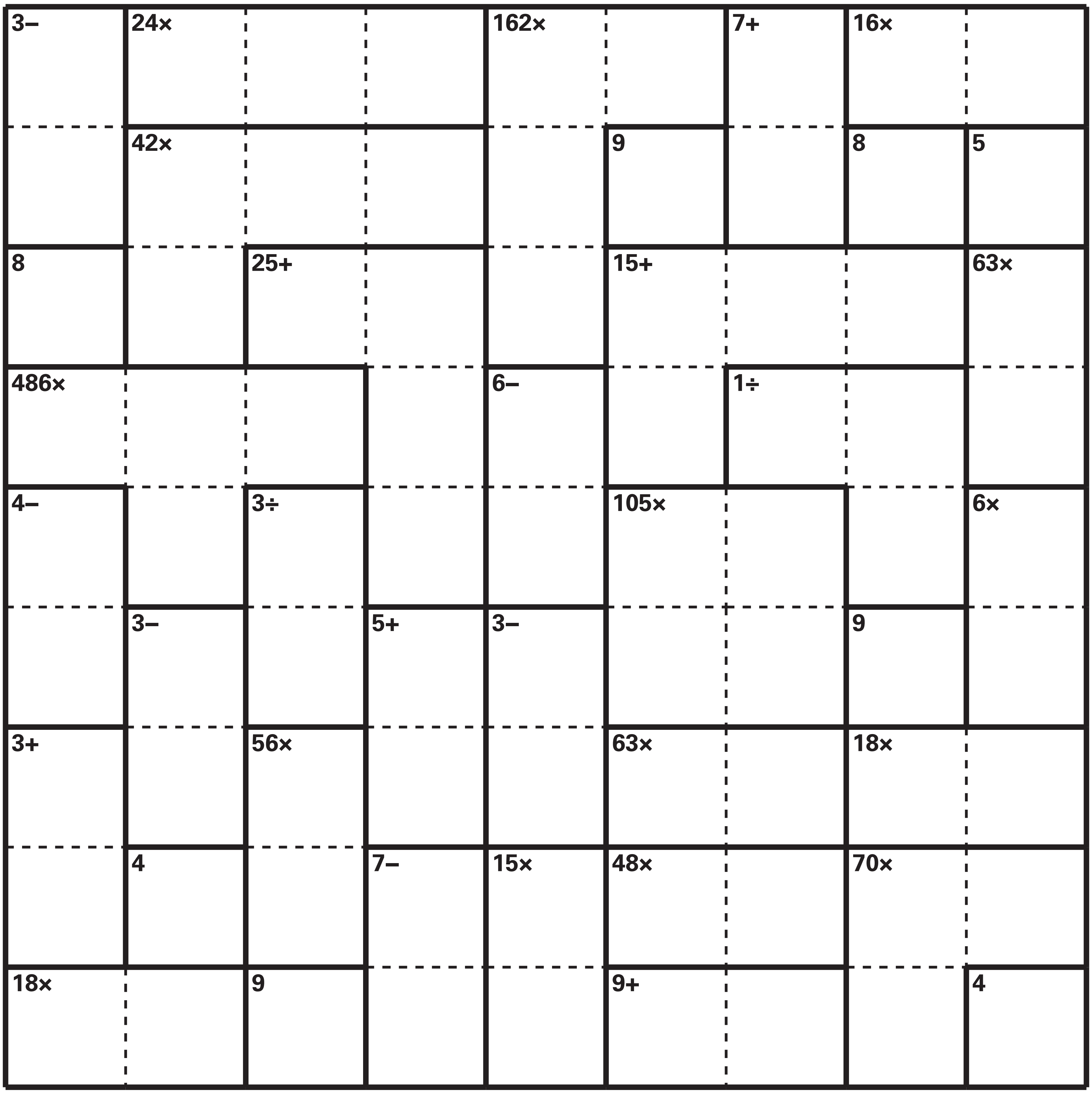
61 Madam Secretary airer

62 Tomorrow, for short

63 Fish in some omelets

REX

Solution, page 2

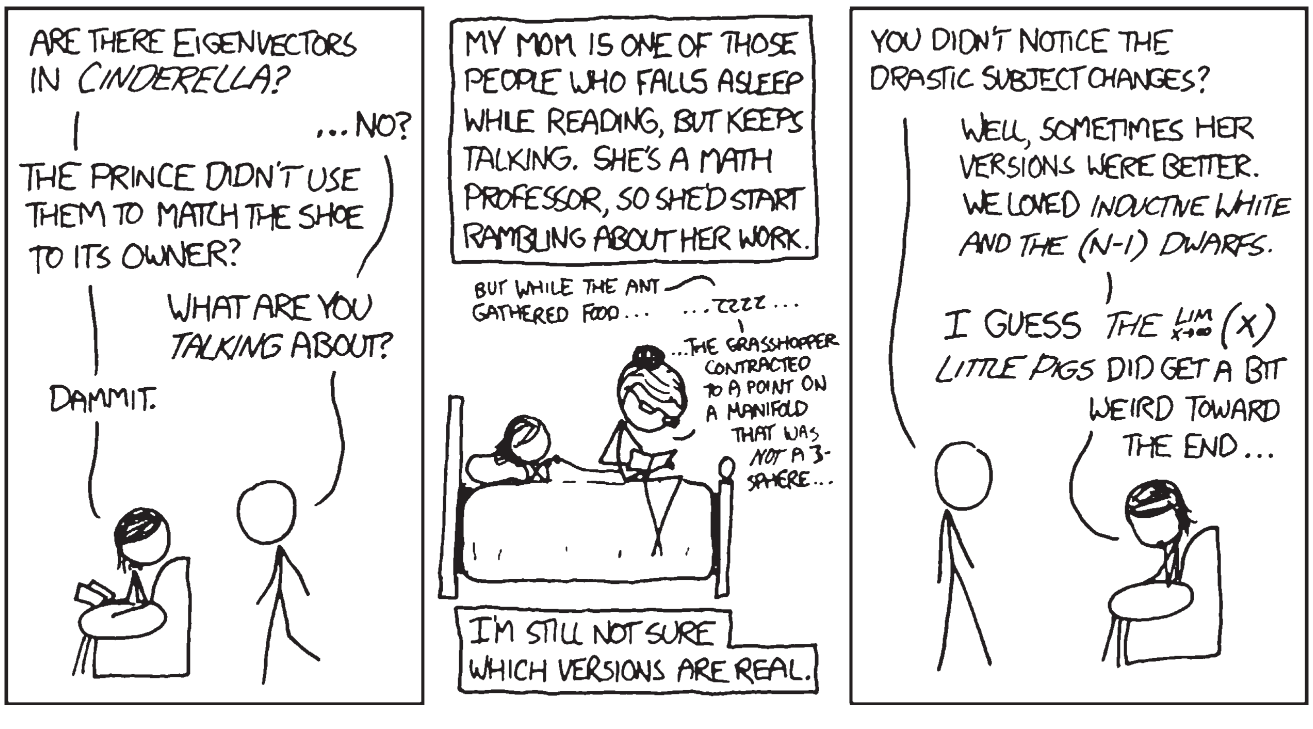


3–	24×			162×		7+	16×	
	42×				9		8	5
8		25+			15+			63×
486×				6–		1÷		
4–		3÷			105×			6×
	3–		5+	3–			9	
3+		56×			63×		18×	
	4		7–	15×	48×		70×	
18×		9			9+			4

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column and row contains exactly one of each of the numbers 1–9. Follow the mathematical operations for each box.

A webcomic of romance, sarcasm, math, and language
by Randall Munroe

[872] Fairy Tales


ARE THERE EIGENVECTORS IN *CINDERELLA*?
...NO?
THE PRINCE DIDN'T USE THEM TO MATCH THE SHOE TO ITS OWNER?
WHAT ARE YOU *TALKING* ABOUT?
DAMMIT.
MY MOM IS ONE OF THOSE PEOPLE WHO FALLS ASLEEP WHILE READING, BUT KEEPS TALKING. SHE'S A MATH PROFESSOR, SO SHE'D START RAMBLING ABOUT HER WORK.
BUT WHILE THE ANT GATHERED FOOD...
...ZZZZ...
...THE GRASSHOPPER CONTRACTED TO A POINT ON A MANIFOLD THAT WAS *NOT* A 3-SPHERE...
I'M STILL NOT SURE WHICH VERSIONS ARE REAL.
YOU DIDN'T NOTICE THE DRASTIC SUBJECT CHANGES?
WELL, SOMETIMES HER VERSIONS WERE BETTER. WE LOVED *INDUCTIVE WHITE AND THE (N-1) DWARFS*.
I GUESS *THE* $\lim_{x\to\infty}(x)$ *LITTLE PIGS* DID GET A BIT WEIRD TOWARD THE END...

Goldilocks' discovery of Newton's method for approximation required surprisingly few changes.

It's Dangerous to Go Alone!

Take This.

photo@tech.mit.edu

Are you a tetris ninja?

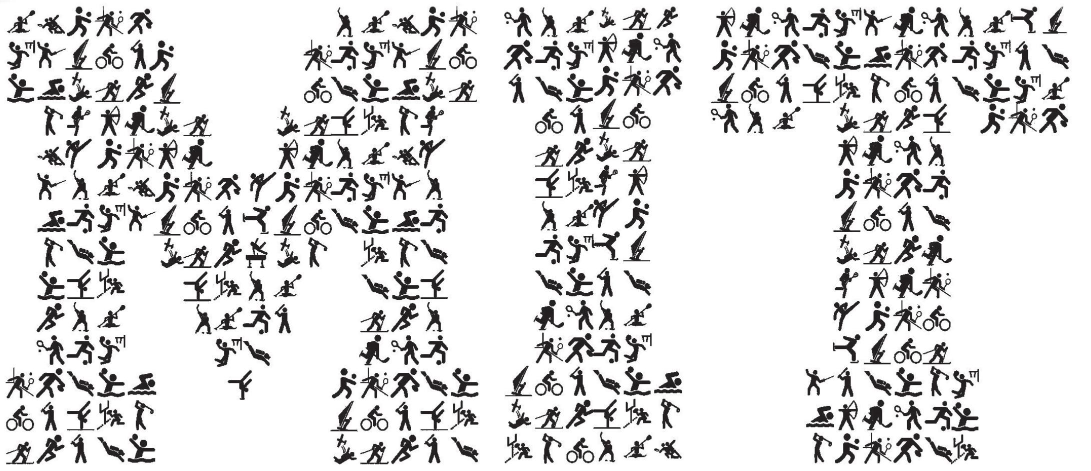
Use your powers for good!

...by joining the production department at The Tech!

join@tech.mit.edu

Graduate Student Council

TANG HALL RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION



Graduate Orientation Olympics 2017

Sept 3, Sunday

2pm - 7pm

(Registration at 1pm)

Z-center

contact: tang-government@mit.edu

IHTFP

Solution, page 2

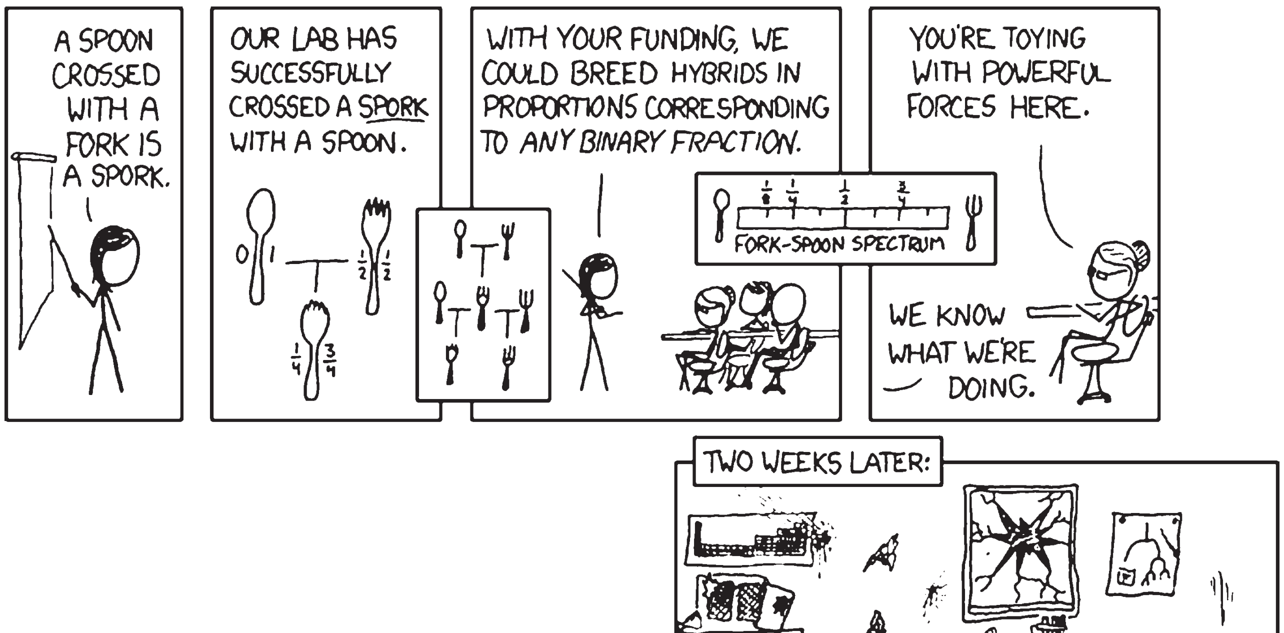
7								
4	5			7		3	9	
		8			3		5	7
5	7	4						
2			5	4	8			3
						5	4	2
8	2		9			6		
	4	6		3			1	8
								4

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9.

A webcomic of romance, sarcasm, math, and language

by Randall Munroe

[419] Forks and Spoons


A SPOON CROSSED WITH A FORK IS A SPORK.
OUR LAB HAS SUCCESSFULLY CROSSED A SPORK WITH A SPOON.
0
1
1/2
1/2
1/4
3/4
WITH YOUR FUNDING, WE COULD BREED HYBRIDS IN PROPORTIONS CORRESPONDING TO ANY BINARY FRACTION.
1/8
1/4
1/2
3/4
FORK-SPOON SPECTRUM
YOU'RE TOYING WITH POWERFUL FORCES HERE.
WE KNOW WHAT WE'RE DOING.
TWO WEEKS LATER:
HOP
HOP
HOP

Their biggest mistake was bringing Rachael Ray and Emeril to tour the lab and sign off on the project. That's when Spielberg caught wind of it.

MENS ET MANUS

MIND&HANDBOOK

The *Mind and Hand Book* is the official guide to MIT's expectations of all undergraduate and graduate students.

→ http://handbook.mit.edu ←

Ps
ID
EXPO
EXPO
NOTES
>_

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join@tech.mit.edu